

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Respect Life Month begins | PAGE 5

Synod of the Family opens | PAGE 11

The Diocese of Ogdensburg Volume 70, Number 18

NORTH COUNTRY CATHOLIC

OCT. 7, 2015

Pope left U.S. impressed by its people

ABOARD THE PAPAL FLIGHT FROM PHILADELPHIA (CNS)—As the American Airlines plane taking him to Rome from Philadelphia took off, Pope Francis said he pictured the faces of all the people he met, and he prayed for them.

At the end of his first-ever visit to the United States, the pope told reporters he "was surprised by the warmth of

the people" and how they were "so loving. It was beautiful."

Spending close to 50 minutes with members of the media flying back to Rome with him Sept. 27, the pope said he also was struck by the sincere piety of people at his Masses and prayer services.

Shortly after takeoff, Pope

Francis responded to a dozen questions, including why he spoke with such compassion to U.S. bishops in Washington about what they went through in the aftermath of the clerical sex abuse crisis.

"I felt a need to express compassion because what happened was horrible, and many of them suffered a lot,"

the pope said. For "men of prayer, good pastors" the crisis was truly a "tribulation." Sexual abuse occurs in families, schools and other environments, he said, but when the abuser is a priest it is "a kind of sacrilege," because a priest's job is to help a person grow in love of God and, instead, an abusive priest "squashes" his victims.

'GOD BLESS AMERICA'

Pope Francis says goodbye



CNS PHOTO/GREGORY A. SHERMITZ

Pope Francis waves from the steps as he boards an American Airlines jetliner at Philadelphia International Airport Sept. 27 for his return to Rome following a six-day apostolic visit to the U.S. The pope ended his trip to the United States with a call for Catholics to keep the enthusiasm of the visit, while continuing to welcome newcomers and care for creation.

FULL STORY, PAGE 10

Religious jubilarians to be honored

Bishop Terry R. LaValley will preside at the annual diocesan religious jubilee Oct. 11 at 2 p.m. at St. Mary's Cathedral. A reception in the Brzana Hall will follow.

The 2015 jubilarians are:

Sr. Jean Marie Chiovitti, SSJ, 75 Years

Sr. Mary Carolyn Madden, RSM, 70 Years

Sr. Mary William Argy, SSJ, 65 Years

Sr. Catherine Laboure Goodbout, SSJ, 65 Years

Sr. Mary Judith Baumert, SSJ, 60 Years

Sr. Rita Frances Brady, GNSH, 60 Years

Sr. Catherine Cummings, RSM, 60 Years

Sr. Anne Hogan, SSJ, 60 Years

Sr. Louella Pelletier, SCSL, 50 Years

Celebrate Christ

To be held Oct. 16, for school

personnel; and Oct. 17 for all

involved in ministry in Lake Placid

NORTH COUNTRY COLLEGIANS IN PHILLY



Among 71 college students who traveled from schools in the North Country to Philadelphia to see Pope Francis were Paige Henson, Francine Nihozeko, Anna Padovani and Sylvie Choiniere from St. Lawrence University, led by Amanda Conklin, campus Minister of SLU and SUNY Canton, front center; and Father Scott Belina, parochial vicar, St. Andre Bessette, Malone. Mrs. Conklin writes about the college pilgrimage on page 7.

ENCOUNTERS WITH THE POPE: North Country pilgrims share stories, p.3,4,7,8,9

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EDITOR'S NOTE

Following the leader in respect for life

I decided it was perfectly fine to begin the NCC's observance of October as Respect Life Month, with a roundup of our diocesan experience during Pope Francis' visit to our country.

The pope, of course, has had plenty to say about the inestimable value of life "even the weakest and most vulnerable, the sick, the old, the unborn and the poor, are masterpieces of God's creation, made



Mary Lou
Kilian

in his own image, destined to live forever, and deserving of the utmost reverence and respect."

In his final message to Americans last week, he said, "Your care for me and your generous welcome are a sign of your love for Jesus and your faithfulness to him. So, too, is your care for the poor, the sick, the homeless and the immigrant, your defense of life at every stage,

and your concern for family life. In all of this, you recognize that Jesus is in your midst and that your care for one another is care for Jesus himself."

This is the message we will carry forward in all our attention to life issues throughout this month and beyond.

In the meantime, we offer messages from several among us who made a short pilgrimage to Washington, New York City or Philadelphia to hear this Holy Father in person.

Bishop LaValley's comments captured the experience they

all seemed to share:

"The encounters with which I was privileged to share with the Holy Father, even if from a distance, provided the atmosphere from which I could fill my lungs with the grace I need to guide our local church even more aware of the needs of the hurting in our midst.

"The tremendous excitement and religious fervor that I experienced among tens of thousands of people tells me that God's Spirit is very much alive and at work in our midst," Bishop LaValley said.

A PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE

A favorite moment of Pope Francis' visit

I am still remembering each of the details of Pope Francis' visit. There were so many magnificent events big and small, so many surprises big and small.

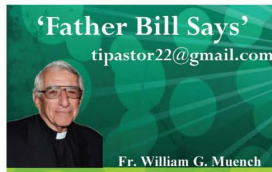
Today I want to share with you one of my favorite moments. During Pope Francis' speech (really, a meditation) that he presented to the members of the Congress of our country. He listed four Americans that he considered exemplars of the call to freedom, dialogue and concern for the poor.

I am certain that all in the Congress, as well as all watching on television, recognized the first two – Abraham Lincoln and Martin Luther King, Jr. These two individuals have been so truly important in the effort to bring freedom to all Americans.

Lincoln and King represent the efforts of a host of people throughout the history of our country who have worked so hard for the place of freedom for all. So we do honor both Lincoln and King and give them a place of home in our country.

Then the Pope added two outstanding Catholic saints – not canonized as yet – two who are not well known among many, even many Catholics.

Since that talk of Pope Francis, I often ask many if they



know Dorothy Day and Thomas Merton. I was saddened to discover that many knew nothing of them. Personally, I was thrilled that Pope Francis chose these two – I literally cheered in the quiet of my own living room as I watched on television.

These are two of my heroes. I know their stories – I have taught about them and their writings often – they have both had a real influence on my life.

Dorothy Day, born in 1897, dedicated herself in the 1930s to the establishment of the ministry of the Catholic Worker Movement, an effort to bring help to the poor and homeless as well as to nonviolence and peace.

Pope Francis spoke of Dorothy Day, in this way: "Her social activism, her passion for justice and the cause of the oppressed, were inspired by the Gospel, her faith and the example of the saints."

Dorothy Day was so dedicated to this cause of the poor that she became a radical, often challenging even the

bishops of our Church. Dorothy Day was a true supporter of the Second Vatican Council; she hoped the Council would elevate the Catholic Church's efforts to oppose war – especially nuclear war – and call all Catholics to work harder to help the poor.

Then Thomas Merton – truly a patron for personally – had a profound influence on my own vocation.

I read his bestselling autobiography, "The Seven Story Mountain," when I was in high school. It was a powerful time for me. He described how he had decided to convert to the Catholic Church after a rather raucous youth.

He then decided to enter the monastery, a Trappist Monastery – not to hide away – but rather to reach so many of us with his writings and poems. He continued to write in the monastery especially with his call to bring peace to our world and to nonviolence and his call to dialogue with all others of faith, whatever faith they follow.

Pope Francis said this about Thomas Merton:

"Merton was above all a man of prayer, a thinker who challenged the certitudes of his time and opened new horizons for souls and for the Church. He was also a man of dialogue, a promoter of peace between

peoples and religious."

Thomas Merton's writings continue to be excellent meditations on life and religion. Merton died in a sad accident in 1968 when he was just 51 years old.

I encourage you – I insist that all of you – investigate the writings of Thomas Merton, especially if you have never read his writings. Go to the library, you will find so much to truly strengthen and enliven your spiritual life.

I do want to repeat how thrilled I was the Pope Francis mentioned Dorothy Day and Thomas Merton as exemplars of Catholics who have had a powerful influence on the search of all Catholics for freedom for care of the poor, for peace and dialogue.

They both have had such a profound influence in my life. I am a better person because of the writings and teachings of Dorothy Day and Thomas Merton. I never met either of them – but I feel I knew them well.

Pope Francis ended this part of his talk by saying: "Three sons and a daughter of this land, four individuals and four dreams: Lincoln, liberty; Martin Luther King, Liberty in plurality and non-exclusion; Dorothy Day, social justice and the rights of persons; and Thomas Merton, the capacity for dialogue and openness to God."

FOLLOW ME

Happy Coincidence? Blessed Providence!

By Bishop Terry R. LaValley

The day before I left for Washington, DC and New York City for the Papal Visit, I enjoyed celebrating the Mass for the opening of the new school year at Immaculate Heart Central in Water-town.

It was the Feast of St. Matthew, the Apostle. In my homily, I reflected on the Gospel passage for the Feast, that familiar scene where Matthew was visited by Jesus at his tax collector post and invited by the Lord to "Follow me."

Those words have special meaning for me as I chose them as my episcopal motto.

My first opportunity to meet Pope Francis was the next day at mid-day prayer at St. Matthew's Cathedral in Washington, DC.

The Holy Father told the bishops: "Our greatest joy is to be shepherds... pastors with undivided hearts and selfless devotion. We need to preserve this joy and never let ourselves be robbed of it."

Later that afternoon, I joined thousands from all over the world at the Canonization Mass of Blessed Junipero Serra at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception.

At that Mass, on the eve of my anniversary to the priesthood, we sang *Pescador de Hombres* ("Lord You Have Come to the Seashore"), a hymn I chose for my first Mass. Happy Coincidence!

The next morning I flew to New York and that evening participated in an awe-filled Vespers Service at beautiful St. Patrick's Cathedral. Talk about coincidence - on this, the anniversary of my ordination day - the Recessional Hymn selected for Vespers was the same hymn, *O God beyond All Praise*, I chose to be sung as I imparted my first Episcopal blessing at



PHOTO BY COLLEEN MINER

Bishop Terry R. LaValley and other bishops concelebrated the Sept. 26 papal Mass at Madison Square Garden in New York City. Here, Bishop LaValley reflects on his opportunities to pray with Pope Francis in Washington and New York.

the end of my ordination/installation liturgy at St. Mary's Cathedral.

To say the least, my prayer experiences with the Holy Father were powerful, inspirational and joy-filled! I pray I never lose that joy or be robbed of it.

The Multi-Religious Gathering with Pope Francis at the World Trade Center Memorial was a very moving experience for me.

When former Mayor Rudy Guiliani arrived for the service, standing just a few feet from me, I found it difficult to swallow as I remembered the horror of that dreadful day. When a Jewish rabbi and Muslim Imam embraced, with the Holy Father

standing behind them, it seemed that peace was possible, if only, as His Holiness tells us again and again, we would learn how to dialogue, to encounter.

My final opportunity to pray with the Pope would be at Madison Square Gardens. What a venue!

The last time I celebrated Mass at a place which was home to a hockey team was during the Year of Faith when thousands throughout the Diocese of Ogdensburg and beyond gathered on a beautiful autumn Sunday afternoon at the Olympic Arena in Lake Placid.

On that wonderful occasion we were privileged and blessed to welcome the personal representative of the

Holy Father to the United States, Archbishop Viganò, to preside at the Eucharist.

That day we experienced a true miracle on ice.

I couldn't help but reminisce about that beautiful diocesan event, as I walked out in procession over the covered ice where the New York Rangers won the Stanley Cup too many years ago. Only this time, not only was Archbishop Viganò present, the Holy Father himself presided!

Many fellow pilgrims, priests and laity from the North Country joined in the Eucharistic celebration. And, wouldn't you know, while it was a different city and a different venue, that night heard us singing a fa-

miliar Communion Hymn, *Pescador de Hombres!* Happy Coincidence...not a chance. Blessed Providence, for sure!

As we left Mass and were walking back to the Bishops' bus, parked on the street in front of St. Francis of Assisi Church, I thought what a fitting place to conclude my pilgrimage.

Here we saw so many people who live on the margins of life sitting on the Church steps. The Franciscan friars serve hundreds of sandwiches every day from that place of worship.

Here, as Pope Francis so eloquently reminded us again and again, were some of the "leftover" people, those who our economy don't seem to need. We can number the unborn, the elderly, the migrant, the persecuted, among them as well.

The encounters with which I was privileged to share with the Holy Father, even if from a distance, provided the atmosphere from which I could fill my lungs with the grace I need to guide our local church even more aware of the needs of the hurting in our midst.

The tremendous excitement and religious fervor that I experienced among tens of thousands of people tells me that God's Spirit is very much alive and at work in our midst. I know that the many pilgrims who trekked to Philadelphia for the World Meeting of Families and the concluding Papal Mass experienced similar feelings of joy and gratitude.

It was with much eager anticipation that I returned back home. We are rightly proud of the Vicar of Christ on earth, our Pope Francis. His pastoral visit, like all pastoral visits, should affirm and challenge, inspire and motivate.

Let us continue to pray for our Holy Father. We pray and do our part to see that the message he brings will bear much fruit.

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**NCC PRIEST APPRECIATION
ISSUE**

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The *NCC* will be honoring our priests in the Nov. 4th issue of the paper.

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With outstretched hands... one pilgrim's reflection

By Deacon Kevin Mastellon
Contributing writer

PHILADELPHIA - My wife, Kathy and I were among the bus loads of pilgrims from our Diocese who participated in the Papal Mass in Philadelphia September 27.

There are two images, both involve outstretched hands, that define my emotions coming from the experience.

By 6 a.m. Sunday we were strategically positioned along the motorcade route to "see" Pope Francis. We were located at the entryway to the ticketed section at the intersection of the Ben Franklin Parkway and 20th Street. No one could argue the quality of our venue.

We settled in with other pilgrims from Watertown and our new found friends from the States of Delaware, Pennsylvania and Washington and other locales.

We watched and waited. We watched as the crowd grew and grew over the nine hours.

We watched as hundreds of police from the Philadelphia City Police Department were augmented by officers from the Pennsylvania State Police, Homeland Security, the Transportation Safety Administration, the Secret Service and others.

And we waited. The crowd was peaceful, quiet. Occasionally some group or other would break into song and every once in a while the huge video screens and blaring sound speakers would come to life, startling most of us, with a live scene from wherever Pope Francis happened to be during the day.

And we waited for our turn, wondering.

Would we be as close to this saintly man as the seminarians at St. Charles Borromeo appeared to be?

Would the Pope-mobile re-

ally pass right in front of us as we hoped or did the motorcade route change for security reasons?

The outstretched hands of memory sticks testified to the awe and respect most folks have for this Pope.

The emotion was a sense of being in the company of a unique, gifted, blessed man.

It was an honor to be among the witnesses

We waited for the moment, a moment in time when the Supreme Pontiff might, if we were lucky, pass slowly by our location and bless us with his presence.

About nine hours from the time we staked-out our location the huge screen came to life again....and there was Francis in that special bubble-car created for his comfort and safety. It was clear he was only about quarter mile or so from where we were standing. The sound of cheering became louder. Someone very official had decided the need for ticketed access to the area where the Pope was to celebrate Mass was no longer necessary.

The gates were pushed aside and our protected little squatter's zone was overrun.

We were no longer in the second file from the rail with a clear view of the street. If lucky we were now fourth or five rows deep. I define "row" loosely.

And then there he was, just a few hundred feet from us.

As Pope Francis approached our location hundreds of hands shot into the sky - mine included.

And at the end of each hand was a device, usually a phone, as nearly everyone

tried to get a picture of the Pope as he passed.

It was hard to see him through the sea of humanity. Perhaps the lens would capture proof I was there. I saw him, as so many of those around me did, for just a moment; a glimpse.

That memory will have to suffice; my arm is a bit too short.

The outstretched hands were not reaching for him, Francis. They were reaching to give permanence to a moment. Proof that "I was there" when Francis was in Philadelphia.

The outstretched hands of memory sticks testified to the awe and respect most folks have for this Pope.

The emotion was a sense of being in the company of a unique, gifted, blessed man. It was an honor to be among the witnesses.

An hour later most of those same hands stretched out again.

But the hands were devoid of gadgets. The hands, including my own, were raised to signal a desire to receive communion from one of the hundreds of priests and deacons who distributed communion to the faithful, the willing, the hungry for Christ.

These hands were outstretched for Him, Jesus. The emotion this time was thanksgiving to be at this Mass with the Pope as principal celebrant; to be there with my wife; to witness hundreds of people all attempting to do as we did, signal our desire for Jesus.

The moment gave me hope for our Church, for our faith as Catholic Christians.

We will measure the impact of Pope Francis' pastoral visit to the United States by how our society and our church respond in the months to come. I suspect the same will be true of me.

For now, I am grateful and humbled by the experience.



Every Life Is Worth Living

October is Respect Life Month

The 43rd Annual RESPECT LIFE PROGRAM

“[I]n recognizing the inestimable value of human life, we must also reflect on how we use it. Life is first and foremost a gift.” ~ **Pope Francis**

2015-16 Respect Life Program Prayer and Program Guide, USCCB

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We invite you to visit the RESPECT LIFE OFFICE website at:

www.rcdony.org/pro-life

BISHOP'S FUND 2015.... UNITED AS ONE FAMILY

Fund aids youth ministry

By Deacon Brian Dwyer
Outgoing director of youth ministry

The office of youth ministry is committed to being the "traveling companions of our young people."

Youth ministry is being fueled by so many caring and faith-filled adults who are walking the journey with our young people by showing concern, compassion, love, and faith.

The guiding principles of youth ministry are discipleship, connection, and giftedness.

Our Diocesan and parish programs always aim to make sure we are bringing more young people into relationship with Christ.

We aim to make sure their gifts and talents are being used to build up parish life and the kingdom of God.

We strive to make sure they feel a connection with their parish and Diocesan family by knowing that we are all one by our faith and Baptism.

The youth office will now benefit greatly by the work of the youth committee in response to our Diocesan goals. Many parishes have signed up to begin or enhance their youth ministry efforts.

Our vision for youth ministry will help pastors and

youth leaders to incorporate this essential ministry into parish life.

Our Diocesan programs so generously supported by the donors of the Bishops fund continue to grow.

Our Diocesan youth rally continues to bring hundreds of teens and youth leaders together to celebrate their faith and grow in their commitment to Christ.

We are pleased to be offering leadership weekends for High school students at Guggenheim. Each year the office sponsors a bus to travel to Washington on the anniversary of Roe vs. Wade to promote and defend all human life.

Our summer camp at Guggenheim continues to be a wonderful opportunity for hundreds of teens to re-

connect and to celebrate their faith in the beautiful Adirondacks.

All of these programs and many more would not be possible without your generous support of the annual Bishop Fund Appeal.

We are indebted for the many sacrifices you make. Please be assured of our continued prayers.

Protecting God's Children

The Diocese of Ogdensburg has scheduled sessions for Protecting God's Children for Adults. Pre-registration online is required in order to participate. Participants may preregister at www.virtus.org by selecting the registration button and following the directions. All employees and volunteers who participate in church sponsored activities with minor are required to participate. Further information is available from Atonement Sister Ellen Donahue, 315-393-2920, ext. 1440

Upcoming sessions;
Oct. 8 - 6:30 p.m., Church of the Visitation, Norfolk
Oct. 14 - 6 p.m., St. Augustine's Church, North Bangor
Oct. 14 - 6:30 p.m., St. James Church, Gouverneur
Oct. 20 - 5:30 p.m., Trinity Catholic School, Massena

To Report Abuse

If you have a complaint of suspected misconduct involving diocesan clergy, religious, employees or volunteers, contact:

Victims Assistance Coordinator, Terri-
anne Yanulavich, Adult & Youth
Counseling Services of Northern New
York, 413 Ryan Road, Churubusco, NY,
12923; e-mail: terrianneyanulavich@yahoo.com Phone: 518-
483-3261; or Father James Seymour,
the Episcopal Vicar for Clergy at 315-
393-2920, ext. 1340

JOB OPENING

The Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg is seeking a
Director of Youth Ministry.

The position is responsible for the planning and implementation of the diocesan youth program. Applicants must be a practicing Catholic. Applicants should have a Bachelor's Degree with extensive experience in the fields of religious education and faith formation, successful experience as youth minister, knowledge of current catechetical documents, familiarity with the characteristics of youth's personal, spiritual and emotional development, proven interpersonal skills and competency in administration and the use of technology. Submit letter of interest, resume and three professional references to: Human Resources Office, Diocese of Ogdensburg, P.O. Box 369, Ogdensburg, NY 13669 or e-mail ksnover@rcdony.org.

Deadline for application is October 23, 2015.

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Bishop's Schedule

Oct. 10 - 10:30 a.m., Deacon Council Meeting at St. Mary's Cathedral
4:30 p.m., Mass at Sacred Heart Church in Massena followed by Knight of the Year Banquet

Oct. 11 - 2:00 p.m., Diocesan Religious Jubilee at St. Mary's Cathedral

Oct. 13 - 12:00 p.m., Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral

Oct. 14 - 10:00 a.m., Opening School Mass at Notre Dame Church in Malone and visit to Holy Family School
5:00 p.m., Dinner with Deacon Jubilarians and Wives at the Bishop's Residence in Ogdensburg

Oct. 15 - 5:30 p.m., 500th Anniversary Mass of the Birth of St. Teresa of Avila at St. Mary's Church in Evans Mills

Rest in Peace

This week marks the anniversary of the deaths of the following clergymen men who have served in the Diocese of Ogdensburg

Oct. 7 - Rev. Jean N. Laverlocher, O.M.I., 1884

Oct. 8 - Rev. Edward Letourneau, 1898

Oct. 9 - Rev. William Joseph Normandeau, 1892; Rev. Francis Xavier Chagnon, 1911; Most Rev. Leo R. Smith, 1963

Oct. 10 - Rev. Robert Duford, 1949; Rev. J. A. Sirois, O.M.I., 1950

Oct. 11 - Rev. William Burns, 1837
Oct. 12 - Rev. Francis Xavier Pelletier, 1881; Rev. P. Joseph Mullins, O.S.A., 1960

Oct. 13 - Rev. Francis X. Campbell, O.S.A., 1984

Environmental Stewardship

Action and prayer to promote care for creation

During his recent visit, Pope Francis called on the global faith community to discern, not only whether our lifestyles are promoting care for creation, but also whether our social, economic and political choices are protecting the interests of the poorest among us.

Below are two suggestions for action and prayer provided by The Global Catholic Climate Movement (www.CatholicClimateMovement.global).

* Suggestion: In December, the Climate Change Conference in Paris will obtain the action plans and commitments of each government coming to the reduction of global warming.

You are invited to send the following message to delegates:

TO WORLD LEADERS IN THE UNITED NATIONS CLIMATE SUMMIT: "Climate change affects everyone, but especially the poor and most vulnerable people among us. Inspired by Pope Francis and the "Laudato Si" Encyclical, we call on you to drastically cut carbon emissions to keep the global temperature rise below the dangerous 1.5°C threshold, and to aid the world's poorest in coping with climate change impacts."

Go to www.CatholicClimateMovement.global, print out the sheet for signatures, sign and invite friends and/or parish members to sign, scan sheet and email to: hello@CatholicClimateMovement.global

* Suggestion: Join others around the globe in daily prayer for each other and for our world leaders who will be making these decisions to protect creation in all its forms.

Prayer for the Environmental Common Good

As we breathe the very air which sustains us, we remember your love, God, which gives us life. Fill us with your compassion for Creation. Empty us of apathy, selfishness, and fear of all pessimism and hesitation. Breathe into us solidarity with all who suffer now and the future generations who will suffer because of our environmental irresponsibility. Move us into action to save our earth and to build your sustainable Kingdom. Amen.

(Source: Education for Justice, a Project of the Center of Concern)

YOUNG CATHOLIC VOICE

Pope Francis...coming around the bend!

By Amanda Miner
Campus minister, St. Lawrence
University and SUNY Canton

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding."

This very popular scripture verse rang true to me this past weekend as I handed the reigns over to the Holy Spirit to help me lead a group of 71 college students to Philadelphia. Planning this trip was, to put it lightly, difficult.

I wish all young Catholics could have an encounter like this. It completely ignites one's faith and gives hope that the young church is alive and well

The details of security, road closings, ticketing, food, and accommodations were always changing as the city of brotherly love tried to navigate the logistics of the possible two million people descending upon the city with the hopes of getting a glimpse of Pope Francis.

We planned as much as possible and then as we boarded our charter bus at 9 a.m. on Sept. 25, we had to trust in God.

God is good. When we arrived at Roman Catholic High school, the first free all boys Catholic High School in the US, right in the heart of Philly, our generous host, Father Bongard announced that he had a surprise. He had managed to acquire 69 tickets in the seated reserved section of the Festival of Families, nicknamed "Francis Fest" on Saturday night.

This work of the Holy Spirit led to our entire group getting a very close encounter with Pope Francis (we also got to see Catholic Comedian, Jim Gaffigan, Actor Mark Wahlberg, Aretha Franklin, The Fray, Matt

Maher and Andrea Bocelli.) We otherwise had no tickets and wouldn't have gotten within a mile of the Pope. God answered my prayers.

I was blessed to be able to attend two World Youth Days as a young teen/adult and being with that many other young Catholics from all over the world with our Holy Father was life changing.

My favorite part of this trip to Philadelphia was watching the faces of my students and hearing about their experiences. I wish all

young Catholics could have an encounter like this. It completely ignites one's faith and gives hope that the young church is alive and well.

It is very difficult, especially on a secular college campus to live the Catholic faith. This trip was an opportunity for students to grow in fellowship with other Catholic students, to deepen their faith and to embrace their place in the Universal Church.

Throughout the trip, my students didn't complain.

We walked a lot and slept little. On Saturday night, due to security closings and wanting to get to our seats, many did not eat dinner until 9 p.m. Their faith and the excitement of the Pope coming around the bend of the road sustained them. Their joy was contagious.

Even on the 4+ mile walk back to our bus with all of our things on our backs, the students were singing and dancing. Many students who attended are away from their families and home countries. Pope Francis' talk

on families at the festival touched their hearts in a personal way. Many of them commented that they knew they had found their home in the Church and with Newman club even though they are away from their immediate families.

The biggest thing that struck me and will stay in my heart is the beauty of the global Church.

On Sunday, we stood in front of City Hall and watched Mass with Pope Francis on the large screens.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

EVERY LIFE IS WORTH LIVING



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Diocesan encounters...

Our church: universal, alive and hope-filled

Our adventure to the Papal Mass in Philadelphia reminded us on a whole new scale of how universal, alive and hope-filled the Catholic Church is!

The enthusiastic group of 28 from St. Stephens (including twelve high school students) often mentioned the abundance of JOY that we experienced as a highlight and delighted that it was often found in unexpected settings. Whether we were profoundly participating in Mass with the Pope and hundreds of thousands all over the city while standing in the middle of a city street miles from the altar, or encountering incredibly kind and thoughtful event support staff, or reflecting on the Pope's homilies with new friends in the crowd, joy was abundant.

Even the hours of waiting with a crazy hope that we'd be fortunate enough to catch a glimpse of the Pope in person, were a gift.

Imagine our absolute elation, when the Pope passed right by us in the Pope mobile

Michelle Watkins
St. Stephen's Parish, Croghan



Clare Wooschlager, Caitlin Lashbrooks, Marissa Halko and Macey Halko, all from St. Stephen's Croghan, are ready to welcome Pope Francis to Philadelphia.

Collegians

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

Even though we weren't physically present on Benjamin Franklin Parkway or receiving communion, everyone was participating in the Mass all around us.

The entire city was engulfed in the beauty of the Mass. It was one of the most profound experiences I've been a part of. You could hear the music ringing out throughout the streets (even

from inside!) The Roman Catholic Mass and Eucharist are the same all over the world. Even in many languages, we were all united in that moment, and are every time we celebrate Mass!

Let us continue to pray for each other, our fellow Christians who are persecuted for practicing their faith publicly and for Pope Francis!



PHOTO BY GIDGET KIMBLE

Her patience was rewarded as diocesan staff member Gidget Kimble - who claimed a space at 6 a.m. for the chance to see Pope Francis arrive at the Benjamin Franklin Parkway in Philadelphia for the 4 p.m. Mass - captured a prized photo.

Favorite Francis moment

I don't have his exact quote, but Phil Moots (a student of IHC in Watertown) pointed out to our bus that Francis shut down the entire city of Philadelphia - and that's pretty amazing.

What's more, in the midst of what was a logistical nightmare, there was joy. People were lined up for security, subways, and sandwiches, but they did so with joy. Now that's a "Francis effect."

Saturday's talk was my favorite Francis moment. His poor translator had to sit on the edge of his seat trying to keep up while the Holy Father pounded away at his speech. But his treatment of beauty, truth, and goodness as needed and as found in the family was excellent.

I trust he reminded many "the family is a factory of hope!"

Fr. Bryan Stitt
Diocesan Vocation Director



Doris Paltt of Gouverneur and Lori Hanno, Lowville were among hundreds of pilgrims from the Diocese of Ogdensburg who made the trip to Philadelphia to join Pope Francis for the closing Mass of the World Meeting of Families.

...with Pope Francis

Most exciting moment of my life

It was THE most exciting moment of my life!

While waiting on line to get into Madison Square Garden, seeing all the people gathering, and everyone full of anticipation, I thought of the crowds gathering to see and hear Jesus: Who IS this man, what is so SPECIAL? Once they saw and heard, then they KNEW. They just wanted to be in His presence.

I can now only imagine being this excited again when I am able to enter Heaven, and see our Lord, face to face, God willing.

The one thing I'll always remember is the feeling of joy and excitement at seeing the pope.

Then, secondly, the absolute sense of peace and a true connection to not just the Holy Father but the entire world of Catholicism and my fellow Catholics.

I will not be able to look at my faith in the same way again. It means that much more.

This Papal event is proba-



Anita Soltero, DRE for St. Peter's Parish in Plattsburgh, was seated in the second level for Pope Francis' Mass at Madison Square Garden in New York City

bly THE most effective evangelizing tool EVER. I am wearing my Pope Francis pin everywhere I go, and people are asking me about

it. What a GREAT way to witness!

Anita Soltero
St. Peter's, Plattsburgh



Dr. Charles Robinson of the Church of the Visitation in Norfolk served as one of 125 ushers for the Sept. 25 Madison Square Garden Mass.

Winning the lottery

I replied to a request from the NY State K of C Council for volunteers to serve as ushers for the Madison Square Garden Mass. Many other organizations of Catholics were sent the

same request and after a lottery, my name was chosen.

On Friday (Sept. 25) I left the hotel at 8 a.m. and didn't get back until after 8.

The security was very tight at MSG. I had to submit a picture about one month ago and then picked up my badge at 9:30 before being allowed in. It made me look official!

Then I just waited until 4 p.m. to go to my station.

Pope's arrival was a big event for the crowd. It was quite a site to see 18,000+ Catholics in one place.

Great homily from the Pope and wrap up from Cardinal Dolan.

I firmly believe that we now have a truly Catholic (meaning universal) Pope, who understands and well integrates the theological, spiritual and charitable facets of Catholicism.

Charlie Robinson

New York State K of C Secretary
Church of the Visitation, Norfolk



Father Douglas Lucia of Canton, Father Thomas Higman, Saranac Lake; and Msgr. Dennis Duprey, Plattsburgh; are ready to concelebrate the Mass in Philadelphia.



Like thousands of other pilgrims, Charlie Robinson and his wife Kathy, posed with a life-size Pope Francis cutout, this one in the gift shop of St. Patrick's Church in New York.

Pope urges U.S. Catholics to keep enthusiasm, welcome newcomers

Pope Francis bids farewell

By David Agren
Catholic News Service

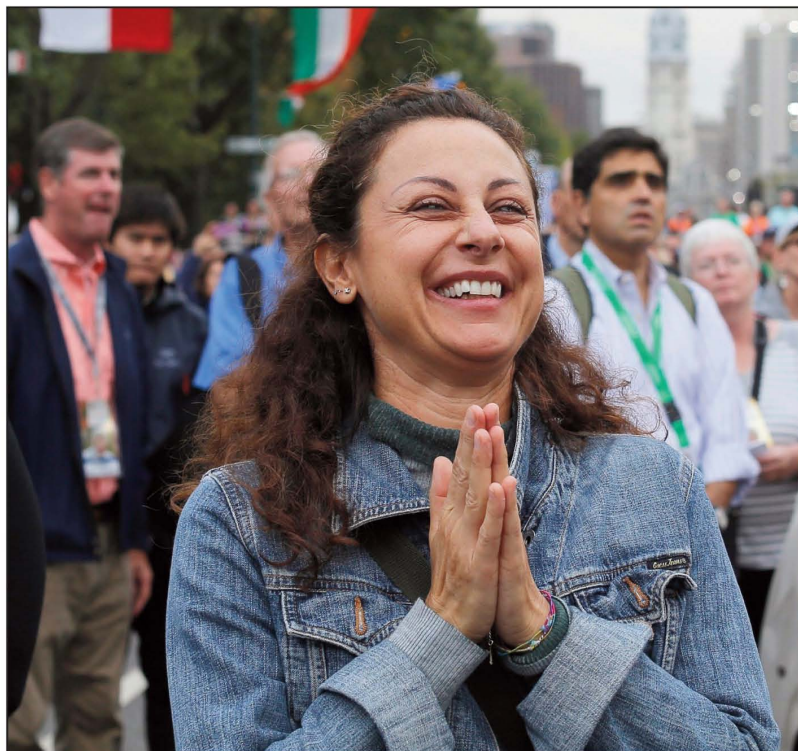
PHILADELPHIA (CNS) - Pope Francis ended his trip to the United States with a call for Catholics to keep the enthusiasm of the visit, while continuing to welcome newcomers and care for creation.

In just over five full days in the U.S., Pope Francis reaffirmed the importance of church and family life, pleaded for inclusive attitudes toward immigrants, reiterated the right of religious freedom and called for action on climate change and care for creation

"Do not let your enthusiasm for Jesus, his church, our families, and the broader family of society run dry," Pope Francis said at Philadelphia International Airport, prior to flying back to Rome. "I pray that our days of prayer and reflection on the importance of the family for a healthy society will inspire families to continue to strive for holiness and to see the church as their constant companion, whatever the challenges they may face."

In just over five full days in the U.S., Pope Francis reaffirmed the importance of church and family life, pleaded for inclusive attitudes toward immigrants, reiterated the right of religious freedom and called for action on climate change and care for creation.

The trip reaffirmed the pope's enormous popularity with Catholics and non-Catholics alike as large crowds convened - even with tight security - while media coverage was comprehensive.



CNS PHOTO/BRIAN SNYDER, REUTERS

A woman reacts to Pope Francis' final words during the closing Mass of the World Meeting of Families on the Benjamin Franklin Parkway in Philadelphia Sept. 27.

Pope Francis, who met again with Vice President Joe Biden just prior to leaving Sept. 27, acknowledged the warmth of the welcome in his final remarks.

"Your care for me and your generous welcome are a sign of your love for Jesus and your faithfulness to him. So, too, is your care for the poor, the sick, the homeless and the immigrant, your defense of life at every stage, and your concern for family life," Pope Francis said.

"In all of this, you recognize that Jesus is in your midst and that your care for one another is care for Jesus himself," he said.

The pope visited Philadel-

phia as part of the World Meeting of Families. He delighted droves of well-wishers with an off-the-cuff speech on family life.

At Independence Hall, he spoke in Spanish on respect for religious freedom and urged immigrant communities - and all Americans - to remember their roots and embrace diversity. "You should never be ashamed of your traditions," he said.

Pope Francis also stopped in New York, where he visited a Catholic school in Harlem, addressed the U.N. General Assembly and led a multireligious gathering at ground zero -- a "place which speaks so powerfully of the mystery

of evil."

"We know with certainty that evil never has the last word," Pope Francis said. "In God's merciful plan, love and peace triumph over all."

In Washington, the pope addressed a joint meeting of Congress, visited later with the homeless and canonized St. Junipero Serra, "who reminds us all of our call to be missionary disciples."

The visit involved political and pastoral aspects. Pope Francis arrived first in Cuba, having helped the decades-long estrangement between the communist country and the United States.

In the United States, his speech to Congress was

widely watched and touched on topics such protecting life in all its stages, religious liberty and acting against climate change.

He touched on his environmental encyclical, "Laudato Si'" again in his parting remarks.

"This land has been blessed with tremendous gifts and opportunities," the pope said. "I pray that you may all be good and generous stewards of the human and material resources entrusted to you."

His message of unity, kindness and caring captured Catholics and non-Catholics alike - especially in Philadelphia.

"He's bringing a sense of unity that I've not seen here," said Rodney Barnes, a social work student and non-Catholic attending the papal Mass in Philadelphia.

"The biggest thing for me (in this message) was the small things in life that you can do for each other every day," said Rona Iredale, whose family saw the Mass from a rooftop bar.

"I'm not very religious, but it was very moving," said Iredale's daughter Hannah, 16, who found much to like about the pope. "He's just a chill guy and I agree with his views."

The exact impact of the visit remains to be seen, though early signs are promising.

"In terms of articulating his message and generating enthusiasm and connecting with Americans, it was a tremendous success," said Andrew Chesnut, religious studies professor at Virginia Commonwealth University. "Only time will tell if there's lasting impact in terms of more parishioners in the pews and a new spirit of partisan cooperation for the common good."

In his final speech, as in some other, Pope Francis ended with the words, "God Bless America."

CATHOLIC WORLD AT A GLANCE

Syriac patriarch in Detroit: 'We are begging' West to help refugees

FARMINGTON HILLS, Mich. (CNS) -- It's a situation reaching biblical proportions: Thousands of refugees fleeing religious persecution, leaving behind their homes, their memories and their lives. With Iraqi and Syrian Christians escaping the terror inflicted by radical Islamic extremists, Syriac Patriarch Ignatius Joseph III Younan made a plea to Western Christians to save his people, his culture and his homeland during a pastoral visit to the Detroit area Sept. 19-21. The spiritual leader of the world's 158,000 Syriac Catholics spoke at St. Toma Syriac Catholic Church in Farmington Hills Sept. 21, briefing the congregation on the situation in the Middle East and what needs to be done to save thousands of Christians in the region. "The situation is very devastating and tragic," Patriarch Younan said, speaking in both English and Arabic. "For Iraq, this has been happening for two generations. For Syria, the war has been taking place for the last three years, with no hope on the horizon for Christians in the area." Patriarch Younan described the atrocities taking place at the hands of the Islamic State, including the destruction of churches, the trafficking of women and girls as sex slaves, and the forced conversion of Christians to Islam.

The family is the answer to world's brokenness, blandness, pope says

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- The family is the answer to the two extremes facing the world - fragmentation and "homogenization," in which everything is forced to be the same, Pope Francis said. The family based on marriage between a man and a woman is the answer because "it is the cell of a society that balances the personal and communal," he said at his general audience Sept. 30 in St. Peter's Square. The family also can be "the model of a sustainable management of goods and the resources of creation" against today's culture of consumerism, he added. The pope dedicated his audience talk to reviewing his Sept. 19-27 trip to Cuba and the United States, where he visited Washington, New York, the United Nations and Philadelphia for the World Meeting of Families. He thanked Cuban President Raul Castro, U.S. President Barack Obama and U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon for their warm welcomes and extended his thanks to all the bishops and everyone who worked to make the trip possible.

Pope has been invited to Canada, but Vatican says nothing confirmed

PHILADELPHIA (CNS) -- Now that Pope Francis' trip to the United States has ended, many wonder when he will visit Canada, as he has been invited to visit Montreal in 2017. Asked about this possibility, Jesuit Father Federico Lombardi, Vatican spokesman, said there is no plan to visit Canada at the moment. "I understand your desire to see the pope in your city (Montreal), and you have the right to hope," a smiling Father Lombardi said in French during a news conference in Philadelphia Sept. 27. He immediately added that he is not aware of any "concrete plan for a trip to Canada." Earlier this year, Pope Francis was invited to visit Montreal in 2017 by Montreal Mayor Denis Coderre, Montreal Archbishop Christian Lépine and Quebec Prime Minister Philippe Couillard. The biggest French Canadian city will celebrate the 375th anniversary of its foundation in 2017. Father Lombardi reminded that, for now, only two papal trips are confirmed: Africa in November, and Poland in July for World Youth Day. He said other papal trips are just "suppositions."

VATICAN-LETTER

Back to the synod: Year given for 'discernment' also brought debate

By Cindy Wooden
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- Pope Francis planned two gatherings of the Synod of Bishops to focus on the family and urged participants to use the year between the assemblies as a time for "true spiritual discernment" with both study and prayer.

In the months leading up to the opening of the world Synod of Bishops Oct. 4, dozens of books about the Catholic Church and families were published, consultations were conducted, conferences held, groups formed, petitions were circulated and study days were sponsored.

"Spiritual discernment" sounds like a quiet, peaceful pursuit, but screaming headlines and reports of "shadow synods" and conspiracies by forces allegedly trying to overturn church doctrine or to keep it in the Dark Ages probably made such discernment a challenge for many participants.

Cardinal Lorenzo Baldisseri, synod general secretary, told reporters Oct. 2 that Pope Francis invited church members and all people of goodwill to discuss the theme of the family. "It is not surprising then that there were positions and statements that contrast with each other or focus on different aspects. This was foreseen."

"Obviously, it can appear that there is turbulence on some themes, but we are on the high seas, so there is some turbulence," he said.

The cardinal also said that, partially in response to accusations that the extraordinary synod's discussions were manipulated -- at least in its controversial midterm report -- changes have been made. Each of the three chapters of the working document will be dealt with separately: There will be an introduction, a "testimony" by a couple or a layperson, speeches in the hall and discussion in 13 small groups. The small group reports will be published.

A 10-member commission will summarize the findings and draft the synod's final report, which will be voted on and given to Pope Francis. Part of the commission's task, he said, is to exercise vigilance to ensure what is written at the end of each stage and at the end of the synod reflects the speeches in the hall and the discussion in the small groups.

In the year between the synods, much of the turbulence in the media and particularly

in the Catholic blogosphere focused on the church's outreach to homosexuals and to people who have been divorced and civilly remarried without an annulment. But Pope Francis told reporters traveling with him that the agenda was much wider than that and focused on helping an even broader range of Catholics.

"There is the issue of second marriages, the divorced who enter a new union," he told reporters Sept. 27 during his inflight news conference from Philadelphia to Rome. However, "the problem of new unions on the part of the divorced is not the only problem."

The synod working document "mentions many" other topics, he said. "For example, young people are not getting married. They don't want to get married. This is a pastoral problem for the church. Another problem: the affective maturity needed for marriage. Still another problem is faith," do young people really believe marriage is forever when they approach the altar?

Marriage preparation is a big and important topic for the synod, Pope Francis said. "I often think about how preparation for becoming a priest takes eight years, and then, it is not definitive; the church can remove someone from the clerical state. But for marriage, which is for life, we offer four courses, four meetings. Something is not right there."

At the end of last year's extraordinary Synod of Bishops on the family, Pope Francis told participants that church leaders and members had a year "to mature, with true spiritual discernment, the proposed ideas and to find concrete solutions to so many difficulties and innumerable challenges that families must confront; to give answers to the many discouragements that surround and suffocate families."

But he also insisted that the "joy of the Gospel" includes the joy of the family.

Speaking Sept. 27 in Philadelphia to a gathering of bishops who had attended the World Meeting of Families, Pope Francis said, "As pastors, we bishops are called to collect our energies and to rebuild enthusiasm for making families correspond ever more fully to the blessing of God which they are! We need to invest our energies not so much in rehearsing the problems of the world around us and the merits of Christianity, but in extending a sincere invitation to young people to be brave and to opt for marriage and the family."

SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS

Message of Pope Francis.. and of Jesus, too

What a wonderful gift our Holy Father, Pope Francis, has given to the United States in his recent whirlwind visit to Washington, New York, and Philadelphia.



Monsignor Paul E. Whitmore

We know now what he meant in his very first encyclical *The Joy of the Gospel*. He personifies and lives the joy that comes from the Gospel. He gently and with love challenged us to be holy and humble missionaries of Jesus' truth. How his eyes lit up in the presence of children, youth, and the handicapped! He brought both hope and challenge to thousands of people.

In the readings for this Sunday, the Book of Wisdom promises that we will find our true happiness and fulfillment in wisdom more than in riches and in worldly success. A love for beauty, peace, and truth flow naturally from wisdom.

The Gospel story of Jesus' encounter with the rich young man is a powerful illustration of that lesson.

He had enough wisdom to seek more than ordinary holiness, but was still too much attached to his own possessions.

The Master loves this young man, and tells him, "You are lacking in one

thing. Go, sell what you have and give to the poor and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me".

Crestfallen, the young man walks away. How close he was to finding the source of all wisdom!

Jesus must have been saddened too as he startles his listeners by saying, "Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle than for one who is rich to enter the kingdom of God."

Riches give us a false sense of security.

The more we lean on wealth, the less we feel the need for God, His wisdom and His love.

That too is the message of Pope Francis.

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A BIRD'S EYE VIEW OF SETON



PHOTO BY SANDY GINGRICH
Bishop Terry R. LaValley traveled to St. Peter's Church in Plattsburgh Sept. 29 to celebrate an opening of school

Mass for Seton Academy and Seton Catholic Central School. After the Mass, he joined students, faculty, administrators and pastors of the schools for the traditional Seton photo.

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BLESSING OF THE ROSES

Saranac Lake – The blessing of the roses to honor St. Therese will be held.

Date: Oct. 11

Time: 4 p.m.

Place: St. Bernard's Chapel

Features: Fr. Thomas Higman officiating for Homily and Benediction.

Contact: Mary at 518-891-5254 or Claudia at 518-891-8195

ROSARY RALLY

Bloomingdale – St. Paul's is holding a rosary rally for the nation.

Date: Oct. 10

Time: 11:45 a.m.

Place: St. Paul's Church

Features: Bring a sandwich, dessert and drinks will be provided.

'LAUDATO SI'

Lake Placid – Pope Francis' encyclical "Laudato Si'" will be the center of three evenings of discussion.

Date: Oct. 6 and Oct. 13

Time: 6 p.m.

Place: St. Agnes

Features: Curt Stager, Ph.D. of the faculty of Paul Smiths will facilitate. A light dinner will begin the sessions. Pre-registration is required

CLINTON

CRAFT PLUS A SHOW

Moers – Ladies of St. Ann Sodality will be having a crafts plus a show.

Date: Oct. 17

Time: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Place: Moers Fire Station

Features: Craft vendors, non-craft vendors, baked goods, hot lunches, raffle prizes. Nonperishable food and monetary donations for local food pantry welcomed.

Contact: 236-7733

OUR COMMON HOME

Plattsburgh – St. Peter's Parish is presenting a program on Pope Francis' Encyclical Laudato Si.

Date: Wednesdays Oct. 8 - Nov. 4.

Time: from 6:30 until 8:00 p.m.

Place: Emmaus Room.

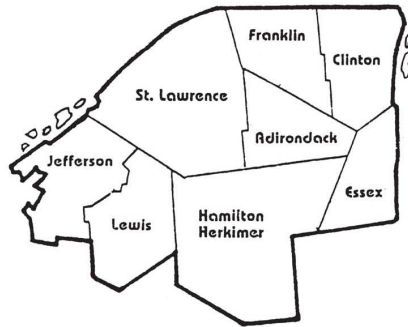
Presenters: Msg. Duprey and members of the Environmental Stewardship group.

CELEBRATE OUR LADY THE ROSARY

Plattsburgh – St. Peter's Parish is holding a meditation on the Luminous Mysteries of the Rosary.

Date: Oct. 7

Time: 6:45 p.m. Prelude of Marian



The North Country Catholic welcomes contributions to "Around the Diocese."

Parishioners are invited to send information about activities to:

North Country Catholic, PO Box 326,
Ogdensburg, NY 13669; fax, 1-866-314-7296;
e-mail news@northcountrycatholic.org.

Items must be received in the NCC office by the Thursday before publication.

Music: 7 p.m.

Place: St. Peter's main church

Speaker: Msgr. Dennis Duprey

GOING OUT OF BUSINESS SALE

Ellenburg Center – The Lost Sheep Quilt shop is going out of business and will be selling their inventory at low prices.

Schedule: Oct. 9, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Oct. 10 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Place: Our Lady of the Adirondacks

Features: 10%-50% off, the more you buy, the more you save. More than 150 Bolts of Moda, Andover & Quilting Treasures fabric. 200 precuts including Jelly Rolls & Charm Packs.; Notions, Books etc.

HARVEST DINNER

West Chazy – St. Joseph's Church will hold their 42nd annual all you can eat Harvest Dinner.

Date: Oct. 11

Time: Noon to 5 p.m.

Place: Parish Center

Cost: Adults, \$10; Children 5-12, \$5; under 5, Free

Features: The menu will include a Buffet Style Ham Dinner with all the trimmings. Take-outs are available at \$10; Country Store, Benefit Drawing.

Contact: call 518-493-4521.

WALK OF FAITH & DINNER

Peru – The CC of St. Augustine's and St. Patrick's Parish, The Peru Community Church, Catholic Daughters of the Americas, Court St. Monica 2598 and Knights of Columbus Council 7273 in Peru, NY are holding their 9th annual Walk of Faith and a Pulled Pork Dinner to benefit The

North Country Mission of Hope and the Jamaica Project.

Date: Oct. 11

Schedule: Early registration begins at 11:45 a.m. Opening Ceremony begins at 12:30 PM, followed by the Walk of Faith Dinner is from Noon to 2 p.m.

Place: Walk, Our Lady of Lourdes Shrine (2.7 miles total); Dinner is at the St. Augustine Parish center

Cost: Walk is free, but donations are accepted. Dinner is \$8 (Non-Walkers), \$6 (Walkers) adult guests will get a plate full of pulled pork, corn on the cob, baked beans, salad and rolls. Beverages and dessert come with the meal. Children 12 and under are \$4 each (non-walkers) and \$3 each (walkers).

Contact: Christa Reyell at 566-6404.

HARVEST DINNER

Dannemora – St. Joseph's Church to have a harvest dinner.

Date: Oct. 11

Time: 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Cost: Adults, \$9; Children 5-11, \$5; under 5, Free

Features: Roast turkey with all the trimmings will be served. Take-outs available. There will also be a Chinese raffle, craft tables, country store, flea market and live music by Ann-Marie Petrushine and Robert Rubado. Proceeds benefit St. Joseph's Renovation Fund and St. Pauls in McKee, Ky.

FRANKLIN

TURKEY DINNER

Fort Covington – St. Mary's will have their annual Turkey Dinner.

Date: Oct. 18

Time: 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Place: St. Mary's Parish Hall

Cost: Adults, \$9; Under 12, \$5; under 5, Free

Features: Take-outs available. There will be a country store. Enjoy shopping for baked goods, canned goods, fresh produce and flea market items. 50/50 raffle, multi-prize raffle, Chinese auction.

HARVEST CRAFT FAIR

Brushton – Harvest Craft fair to be held and vendors needed.

Date: Oct. 17

Time: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Place: St. Mary's Church

Features: 6x6 space available for \$12.

Contact: 518-529-6566 and 518-529-6048 for reservations

YANKEE POT ROAST

Chateaugay – The 36th Annual Yankee Pot Roast, family style harvest dinner will be held.

Date: Oct. 18

Seatings: Noon, 2:30 p.m. and 5 p.m.;

Take-outs and Home Delivery is at 1 p.m.

and 4; Reservations are not needed but appreciated by calling Pat at 497-3183

or Mary Lou at 497-3154

Place: St. Patrick's Church

Cost: Adults, \$9; Children 6-11, \$4;

under 5, Free

Features: There will be a raffle with many prizes. The Country store will be available. If you have craft items, please call 497-6823. Proceeds will go towards the church's renovations and fuel. Workers are needed, please call 497-6673.

HARVEST DINNER

St. Regis Falls – St. Ann's Society will be holding a Harvest Dinner with turkey and all the trimmings.

Date: Oct. 11

Time: Noon to 3 p.m.

Place: St. Ann's parish hall

Cost: Adults, \$9; Children under 12, \$5

Features: There will be a 50/50 raffle.

Contact: Take-outs available by calling 518-522-4633

JEFFERSON

ROSARY CRUSADE

Watertown – A Rosary Crusade has been planned

Date: Oct. 7

Time: 5:15 p.m.

Place: Holy Family Church

Features: Celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary. Mass followed by a recitation of all four Mysteries of the Rosary. Sponsored by the Watertown

Curia, Legion of Mary.

Contact: Deanna Smith, 315-788-3076 or deannasmithdnn@aol.com

'LAUDATO SI'

Watertown – Discussion sessions on "Laudato Si", Pope Francis' encyclical on the Care for our Common Home.

Date: Six Week program every Tuesday Oct. 13 – Nov. 17

Time: 9:30 a.m. to 11 (with option to attend Mass) or 6:30 p.m. to 8

Place: Sisters of St. Joseph Motherhouse

Cost: \$11 for the copy of the Encyclical and a discussion guide

Features: The program Will include a brief overview of each of the six chapters on successive meeting dates followed by small group discussion. Sponsored by Social Justice Committee, Sisters of St. Joseph of Watertown, and the Watertown Faith & Ecology Group

Contact: Please call or email to make reservations, Sr. Bethany, 315-782-3460 or srbethssj@gmail.com

SPAGHETTI SUPPER

Watertown – The Altar Rosary Society will be having a spaghetti supper.

Date: Oct. 29

Time: 4:30 p.m. to 7

Place: St. Anthony's Msgr. Sechi Hall

Cost: Adults, \$8; Children, \$4.50; under

3, Free; Sauce, \$5 per quart; Meatballs,

\$7.5 each

Features: Take-outs begin at 4 p.m., please bring your own containers.

CRAFT FAIR VENDORS

Watertown – Immaculate Heart Central Home & School Club will be holding our second annual craft fair and is in need of vendors.

Date: Nov. 14

Cost: \$25 per table

Contact: IHCHASC@gmail.com for an application, or contact Lori Hickman at (518)250-6008; Applications can also be picked up at either IHC Primary school on Winthrop Street or Intermediate school on South Massey Street in Watertown. Deadline is Oct. 19.

PEACEFUL PRAYER FOR LIFE

Watertown – Join us for a peaceful, prayerful witness of prayer and hymns for the Sanctity of human life.

Date: Every day through October including Sundays.

Time: Noon to 1 p.m.

Place: Planned Parenthood office on Stone Street.

CONTINUED ON BACK PAGE



The Pontifical Mission Societies of the Diocese of Ogdensburg, Inc.

The Society for the Propagation of the Faith
Sr. Mary Ellen Brett, SSI, Director
622 Washington St., Ogdensburg, NY 13669
(315) 393-2920; fax 1-866-314-7296
mbrett@rcdony.org

It's Our World on Mission

The theme for 2015 World Mission Sunday is "It's Our World on Mission". Our focus for World Mission Sunday this year is the whole world! Jesus left us with a worldwide mission before His Ascension: "Go therefore, make disciples of all nations" (Mt 28:19). As baptized Catholics, we are responsible for connecting with our mission family and sharing with them the Good News of God's love for all people.

World Mission Sunday 2015

Pope Francis says, "In the full range of the Church's missionary activity, all the faithful are called to live their baptismal commitment to the fullest." What does this statement mean to all of us?

It means that every day we must endeavor to live out the commitment of our Baptism and furthermore our Confirmation to the world as Catholics to make those daily connections and encourage our own daily faithful witness in a world so in need of God's love and mercy. "Mission is part of the 'grammar' of faith, something essential for those who listen to the voice of the Spirit who whispers 'Come' and 'Go forth.' Those who follow Christ cannot fail to be missionaries..." Pope Francis says.

We can connect with our mission family and share our faith a couple ways. One, pray the World Mission Rosary. Two, attend mass this weekend at your local parish to celebrate World Mission Sunday and pray for those who live and work in our developing Mission lands. And three, if possible, give generously to the second collection in honor of World Mission Sunday. This will help you to live out our focus this year of "It's Our World on Mission".

May God who called you to be on mission, send you out to be witnesses of his love for people of every nation on earth. May almighty God bless you.

Pray and give generously October 18, 2015

www.IAmAMissionary.org

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2015 World Mission Sunday Appeal

The Society for the Propagation of the Faith
a Pontifical Mission Society

OBITUARIES

Brushton — Ronald A. Casey Jr., 46; Funeral Services Oct. 2, 2015 at St. Mary's Church; burial in St. Mary's Cemetery.

Malone — Rhea Lefebvre Leduc, 89; Funeral Services Oct. 2, 2015 at St. Joseph's Church; burial in St. Joseph's Cemetery.

Massena — Thaddeus M. "Ted" Kot, 89; Funeral Services Sept. 28, 2015 at Sacred Heart Church; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

Massena — Mary F. Houlihan Sharlow, 91; Funeral Services Oct. 3, 2015 at Sacred Heart Church; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

Massena — Virginia (Pellegrino) Sprow, 93; Funeral Services Sept. 28, 2015 at Church of the Sacred Heart; burial in Calvary Cemetery.

Massena — Bertrand Wayne Widrick, 87; Funeral Services Sept. 29, 2015 at Church of the Sacred Heart; burial in St. Mary's Cemetery, Potsdam.

Morrisonville — Joan M. (Connolly) Grassi, 76; Funeral Services Sept. 28, 2015 at St. Alexander's Church; burial in St. Alexander's Cemetery.

Ogdensburg — Lloyd A. McGrath, 87; Funeral Oct. 1, 2015 at St. Mary's Cathedral; burial in Notre Dame Cemetery.

Ogdensburg — JoAnn Roca, 65; Funeral Services Oct. 2, 2015 at Notre Dame Church; burial in Notre Dame Cemetery.

Ogdensburg — Suzanne M. (Pinkerton) Skamperle, 49; Funeral Services Oct. 3, 2015 at Notre Dame Church; burial in Notre Dame Cemetery.

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Peru — Wesley William Baughn, 91; Funeral Services Sept. 28, 2015 at the Hamilton Funeral Home Chapel; burial in Whispering Maples Memorial Mausoleum.

Peru — Sandra L. "Sandi" Andrews, 70; Funeral Services Sept. 30, 2015 at St. Augustine's Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Plattsburgh — Gertrude E. "Gert" (Provost) Germaine, 94; Funeral Services Sept. 30, 2015 at St. Peter's Church; burial in St. Peter's Cemetery.

Plattsburgh — Kenneth G. Kanaly, 82; Funeral Services Sept. 29, 2015 at St. John's Church; burial in parish cemetery.

Plattsburgh — James Thomas Kavanagh, 83; Funeral Services Sept. 26, 2015 at St. John's Church; burial in Mt. Carmel.

Potsdam — Kenneth T. Morgan, 86; Funeral Services Sept. 30, 2015 at the Garner Funeral Service; burial in St. Mary's Cemetery.

Tupper Lake — Norma Easter LaLonde, 89; Funeral Services Sept. 29, 2015 at St. Alphonsus Church; burial in Ogdensburg.

Tupper Lake — Lawrence J. "Red" McClear, 91 and Ruth M. (Edwards) McClear, 82; Funeral Services Sept. 25 at St. Alphonsus Church; burial in St. Alphonsus Cemetery.

Watertown — Caroline (Bastrella) Leone, 89; Funeral Services Oct. 3 at St. Anthony's Church; Entombment in Glenwood Mausoleum.

Willsboro — Ellen "Nellie" (Maguire) White, 92; Funeral Services Sept. 28, 2015 at St. Philip of Jesus Church; burial in parish cemetery.



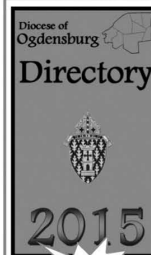
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2015

SALE

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Around

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14

LEWIS

SPIRIT WALK

Turin – Lewis Deanery church members will take part in a Spirit Walk to pray the Rosary for families, peace, and vocations. Bring warm clothes and a comfy chair to this outdoor event.

Date: Oct. 10

Time: noon

Directions: Rte. 26 to four corners in Turin - from North, turn right; from South, turn left. Proceed to well-marked Spirit Walk site.

HEALING MASS

Lowville – Fr. Chris Carrara will celebrate a Healing Mass.

Date: Oct. 24

Time: 10 a.m.

Place: St. Peter's Church

Features: The Sacrament of the Sick will be offered during Mass. The Mass will be followed by a breakfast in church hall.

ALTAR ROSARY MEETING

Lowville – New members are welcome to a luncheon meeting of St. Peter's Rosary Altar Society.

Date: Oct. 14

Time: 12:30 p.m.

Place: St. Peter's Church Hall

SWING DANCE

Lowville – There will be a Swing Dance (Jitterbug) Fundraiser for the various youth ministry programs.

Date: Oct. 10

Place: St. Peter's Church Hall

Cost: Adults, \$6; Students/Seniors, \$3; Family \$15

Features: A seminarian from the diocese of Albany is coming to help teach everyone how to swing dance and there will be a contest to for the best 1940's costume! (Note: you do not have to come in costume) Refreshments will be sold

THEOLOGY ON TAP

Lowville – Theology on Tap to be held.

Date: Oct. 29

Time: 7 p.m.

Place: Barkeater Brewery

Features: Fr. Christopher Carrara will be speaking on the topic of evil in the world and will answer questions after.

PIZZA AND PRAYER

Lowville – Pizza and Prayer to be held every Monday.

Schedule: 5:30 p.m. to 6:15, pizza and social time; Bible Study 6:15 to 6:45; Pick up at 7 p.m.

Place: St. Peter's Church

Features: Open to high school students. If you have your own Bible, you are welcome to bring it, but Bibles will be provided. Most P&P will be Bible studies. The first Monday of the month will be Eucharistic adoration in the chapel, following the same time structure.

IMPACT NIGHTS

Lowville – IMPACT (High school youth group) nights are the first and third Sundays of the month.

Time: 6 p.m. to 8

Place: St. Peter's Church

Features: For all high school students.

ST. HEDWIG'S POLISH FEST

Houseville – St. Hedwig's Annual Polish Fest is set

Date: Oct. 11

Time: Noon after the celebration of the 11 a.m. Mass.

Features: Tasty Polish Platter (takeouts will be available); Theme Basket Raffles, Bake Sale, Ice Cream Sundaes; Polish Hot Dogs; and a 50/50 Raffle. Donations of Theme Baskets, Pies and Monetary Donations to defray the cost of the food appreciated. The event is a fundraiser for church repairs and restoration.

Contact: Joann 348-8735, Mary 348-8836 or Mary Ann 348-6260.

ST. LAWRENCE

RUMMAGE SALE

Canton – Rummage sale to be held.

Date: Oct. 9, from 8 a.m. to 5 & Bag Sale Oct. 16, from 8 a.m. to 11.

Features: Clothing, household items, plus misc. items

HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS

Norfolk – There will be a workshop on human trafficking awareness from a Catholic Perspective.

Date: Oct. 7

Time: Mass at 5:30 p.m.; social at 6; workshop 6:30 p.m. to 8

Place: Fr. Andrew Amyot Parish Hall

Features: The workshop presenter will be Mary Palamar, PhD., professor emerita at Nazareth College and a member of the North Country Human Trafficking Task Force. The workshop is intended for clergy, lay people, social service personnel, teachers, community leaders and others.

Contact: Church of the Visitation at 315-384-4242; email visitationchurch@centralny.twcny.rr.com

ROSARY RALLY

Potsdam – The annual Public Square Rosary Rally will be held.

Date: Oct. 10

Time: Noon

Place: The park at the corner of Route 11 and Maple St (across from Kinney's). **Features:** Please join us and more than 14,000 other rallies all over the country in response to Our Lady of Fatima's request for prayer and penance, to obtain pardon and peace.

K OF C BRUNCH

Norfolk – The Knights of Columbus Council will be sponsoring a brunch.

Date: Oct. 11

Time: 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Place: Fr. Amyot Parish Center

Cost: Adults, \$8; Children under 12, \$5; Under 5, Free; Family of 4, \$20, each additional \$3; Take-outs available

Menu: Pancakes, French toast, scrambled eggs, omelets (\$3), ham, sausage, home fries, toast, juice, coffee and tea.

HARVEST DINNER

Ogdensburg – Notre Dame Church to have their Annual Harvest Dinner.

Date: Oct. 18

Time: Noon to 3 p.m.

Place: Knights of Columbus Hall

Cost: Adults, \$9; Children 5-12, \$5; Under 5, Free (Eat in only)

Features: Take-outs available. Roast Turkey with all the trimmings and dessert. 50/50 raffle and craft table.

SENIOR CITIZEN DINNER

Brasher Falls – Annual Senior Citizen dinner to be held.

Date: Oct. 14

Time: Cocktails 5 p.m.; Dinner 6 p.m.

Place: Knights of Columbus Hall

Features: Open to ALL seniors living in the Quad-Town area. Choice of Roast Beef or Chicken.

Contact: If you would like to join, call 315-328-4077 or 389-5557

DIOCESAN EVENTS

DAYS OF DISCERNMENT

Potsdam – Discerning men are invited to come together & consider the call the Roman Catholic Priesthood.

Dates: Oct. 11 & 25; Nov. 8 & 22; Dec. 6 & 13; Jan. 17 & 31; Feb. 14 & 28; March 13;

PRIESTLY FRATERNITY



Father Philip Allen, right, pastor in Indian Lake and Olmstedville, is guiding and accompanying Father Justin Thomas, parochial vicar at St. Mary's Cathedral and Notre Dame Church in Ogdensburg, on Father Justin's quest to climb the 46 high peaks of the Adirondacks. Father Allen is a veteran climber, who has climbed all 46 high peaks 25 times and has been featured in articles appearing in several publications. Father Justin is a Herald of the Good News from India who is serving in the Diocese of Ogdensburg. The two priests began their quest to climb the 46 peaks in June and expect to complete it by December. They are shown on their recent climb up Seymour Mountain.

April 3 & 17

Time: 3 p.m.

Place: St. Mary's Rectory

Features: Reflection and vespers. No reservation necessary, just come along.

Contact: Your Catholic Campus Minister or Fr. Howard Venette, pastor @st.marys-patrick.net 315-265-9680; Fr. Doug Lucia, frdoug@twcny.rr.com or Fr. Bryan Stitt, bstitt@rcdony.org

CELEBRATE CHRIST

Lake Placid – Celebrate Christ 2015 has been planned. The theme for this two day event, Nurturing Families and Parishes with Living Stones, highlights two of our diocesan priorities, the faith formation of families and building parishes with living stones.

Dates: Oct. 16 for Catholic School administrators and faculties. Oct. 17 is for all people engaged in parish life

Place: Crowne Plaza

Features: Dr. JoAnn Paradis, national cat-

hectical consultant for Our Sunday Visitor Curriculum division, will speak on the first day on the topic "Crossing the Threshold to Intentional Discipleship." Dr. John Roberto, president of Lifelong Faith Associates, will speak on the second day. Bishop Terry R. LaValley will celebrate the opening Mass Saturday at 9 a.m. **Registration:** www.rcdony.org and click on the Celebrate Christ 2015 logo

CARITAS DINNER

Ogdensburg – The 2015 Catholic Charities Caritas Dinner will be held.

Date: Oct. 28

Time: 6 p.m.

Place: Gran View Restaurant

Cost: \$40 per person

Features: The Caritas Award will be presented to John and Jane Pinkerton of Ogdensburg and President's Award to Tim and Jeannine McLellan

Contact: Reservations are needed. Call 315-393-2255